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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)
D. Scott WILBUR, *et al.*)
U.S. Serial No.: 09/519,998) Examiner: L. Wells
Filed: March 6, 2000) Group Art Unit: 1616

#15/B
HKO
5-9-02

Title: TRIFUNCTIONAL REAGENT FOR CONJUGATION TO A BIOMOLECULE

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

A response to the Office Action dated July 23, 2001 (Paper No. 9) was due by October 23, 2001. A Petition for Extension of Time (three months, small entity) is enclosed, extending the date to January 23, 2002. Therefore, please accept this Amendment as timely filed.

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-30 will be pending in this application, as well as new claims 31-39. The required fee for the 9 newly added dependent claims is accounted for in the accompanying transmittal. No new matter is incorporated by this Amendment.

In response to the Office Action dated July 23, 2001 (Paper No. 9), kindly amend the above-identified patent application as follows: